



Monkfrith School

Summer Term 2024

Newsletter 4

The last few weeks have been a little disjointed with Polling Days and Bank Holidays, but there has still been lots of learning happening right across school. In assembly this morning I asked the children what they had enjoyed about their week and there were so many hands up all eager to share a different story or fact. It is lovely to see their enthusiasm.

Year 3 had a lovely morning at the Oakhill Park on Wednesday as they carried out their own fieldwork into rivers and streams. This is linked to their geography lessons. Thank you so much to the parents who were able to come along and help.



Next week **Year 6** will be sitting their SATs. These are one of the statutory assessments which schools are required to carry out. The tests will start just after 9am on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday so it is so important that the children are in school and ready to start promptly. The tests are spread out over the four days:

Monday - Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Tests

Tuesday - Reading Test

Wednesday - Arithmetic Paper 1 and Reasoning Paper 2

Thursday - Reasoning Paper 3

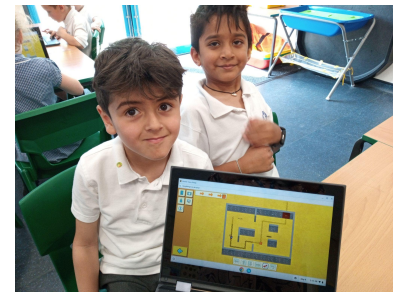
The children in both classes have been working *extremely* diligently to do the best that they can, which is all that we can ask! We are already very proud of them.

Then on Sunday 19th May, we head to the Isle of Wight for their residential trip. It will be a busy few weeks for them!

In **Reception**, the children have been designing and making wormeries.



Year 1 have been retelling the story of The Lion Inside. They have also been learning about the artist Pierre Maxo and creating their own work inspired by this. In their Computing lessons they have been learning about simple algorithms.



In **Year 4** the children have been learning about how to record sound by creating podcasts. They also had the opportunity to interview a musician who talked to them about his career playing the piano.

In **Year 5** the children have been reading the fabulous book, The Boy in the Tower by Polly Ho Yen which they are using as the basis for their writing. In their music lessons the children have been doing a mix of drama and singing in their class performances of Queen Nut! The children have also been carrying out practical investigations into forces and resistance as part of the science curriculum.



In **Year 2** have been learning about the layers of the Rainforest using the text Under the Canopy. They have also been learning how to really look at artwork by studying the paintings of Henri Rousseau.

KS2 Choir

On Tuesday we took our KS2 Choir to our Music Festival Cluster Rehearsal at Sacred Heart to practise with some of the schools that will be taking part when we perform at the Arts Depot next month. If you ordered one ticket, it will be sent home after half term. If you would like to order extra tickets, you can contact the Arts Depot Box Office directly from 21st May (0208 369 5454).

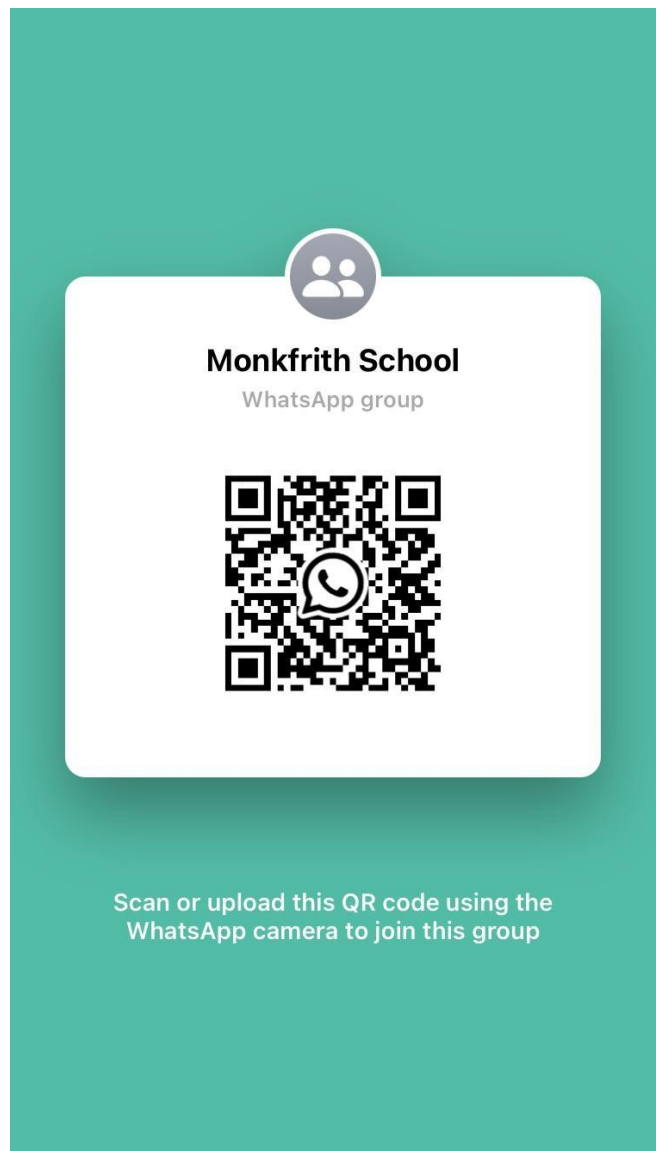
It is so lovely to have over 40 children attending Choir. We are not currently accepting new members as we are honing our performance for the festival but if your child is in Year 3-5 and don't already attend, then they will be most welcome from Thursday 27th June (8.15am in the Studio).

Smartphones

Alongside the newsletter today, I am sharing a parents guide to the the most recent Ofcom report about media use and attitudes.

A group of parents at our school have recently joined a grassroots movement of parents called [Smartphone Free Childhood](#). It is aiming to trigger a national conversation about the age at which children are given smartphones. This is such an important and increasingly pressing issue both in schools but in society in general and therefore I am sharing the information below:

We are pleased to announce the Monkfrith School WhatsApp group of the "Smartphone Free Childhood" movement. This group is available to join for any parent with children at Monkfrith. The evidence is now very emphatic that smartphone and social media use are harmful to children's mental health and development, as well as exposing them to the risk of online grooming and sextploitation. This group allows concerned parents to receive the latest information, exchange ideas, etc. If you are concerned about this issues please do join the group, and contribute to the debate. To do so you can use this QR code, or search for us on Whatsapp.



FOMS Update

Be a part of creating an unforgettable Summer fete!

The summer term is upon us and with it the opportunity to take part in the summer fete on **Saturday 13th July, 1-4pm**. Every year, we strive to create a truly remarkable event to bring together families, friends, and neighbours for a day filled with fun and community spirit.

We've been working hard planning for the day and we need help to add those special touches. Please have a look at our wishlist to see how you can help. Your generous support will directly contribute to the success of our event! [View wishlist ->](#)

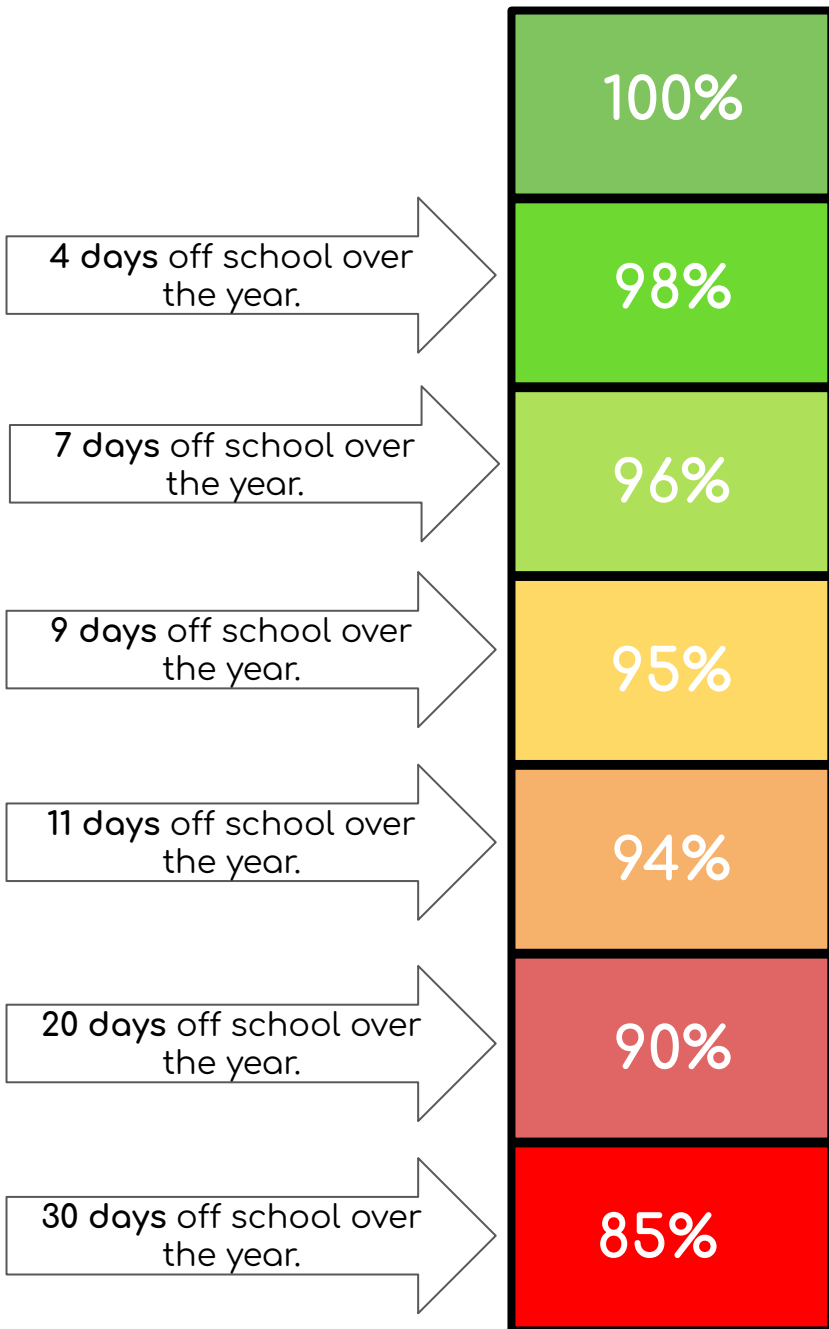


Attendance and Punctuality

Requesting Exceptional Term Time Leave

When you make a request, you should expect that it will not be authorised. There are only 190 days in the school year which is only 52% of the year.

I understand that holidays during term time are less expensive, however this does not mean that a request is exceptional.



All our lessons build on the day before so if your child misses one day it is like a missing brick in a building. Build the strong foundations of your child's education by ensuring that they are here every day!

Week commencing:

6th May 2024

Whole School	97%
Oak	100%
Willow	98%
1C	98%
1K	98%
2C	93%
2P	95%
3D	100%
3F	97%
4M	96%
4P	97%
5LD	97%
5S	96%
6K	95%
6S	95%

Dates for the Year

Here are the term dates for this year so far:

13th May - Year 6 SATs week

17th May - KS2 Barnet Athletics Competition

19th May to 24th May - Year 6 to the Isle of Wight

22nd May - Year 1 Assembly 9am

23rd May - Year 4 to the Southgate Gurdwara (am)

27th May to 31st May - Half Term

June

3rd June - INSET 4

4th to 7th June - Arts Week

5th June - Year 5 to the National Portrait Gallery

6th June - Dress Like A Piece of Art

7th June - Whole Class Photo Day

10th June - Reception to Aldenham

12th June - 4M Class Assembly

12th June - Choir to the Music Festival

13-14th June - Year 4 to Phasels Wood

17th June - SPORTS WEEK

18th June - Year 1 to Capel Manor

19th June - 2C Class Assembly (9am)

24th June - New Reception Parents Welcome Evening 7pm

26th June - 2P Class Assembly ((9am)

27th June - KS2 Sports Afternoon (weather dependent) in Oakhill Park

28th June - Reception Sports (9.15am)

July

2nd July - KS1 Sports Afternoon (weather dependent)

3rd July - Year 3 to the National History Museum

5th July - INSET 5

10th July - Reception Class Assembly

13th July - FOMS Summer Fair

18th/19th July - Year 6 Show (TBC)

24th July - Year 6 Leavers Assembly (9.15am)

24th July - Last Day of Term 2pm

September 2024

2nd September - INSET Day

3rd September - First Day back